

# Port Wentworth Mill

## Outfall Diffuser Installation

Chatham County, Georgia

Project Description

April 2021

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION:

International Paper Company is submitting the attached information requesting NWP 7 concurrence for temporary impacts associated with installation of approximately 265 linear feet of new 48-inch effluent discharge pipe and diffuser for the IP Port Wentworth's facility wastewater treatment system effluent. The project site is located at 1 Bonnybridge Road on the Savannah River, Chatham County, Georgia (32.1634, -81.1560).

### 2.0 PROJECT PURPOSE:

The purpose of the potential new diffuser installation is to promote mixing and dispersion of the mill's treated wastewater effluent in the Savannah River. An increase in mixing and dispersion improves water quality in the Savannah River by decreasing the maximum acute effluent concentration in the Savannah River.

### 3.0 PROPOSED PROJECT:

As depicted on the attached permit drawings, the proposed project includes installation of approximately 297 linear feet of 48' SDR 26 HDPE pipe with 17 6" duckbill diffuser ports on 4'3" spacings. The project area totals 0.219 acre and includes 0.066 acre of tidal water (Savannah River) and 0.153 acre of upland. Approximately 65 feet will be located within upland and approximately 232 linear feet will be located within jurisdictional area (Savannah River). Temporary impact to 0.066 acre of open water is associated with the project. Impacts include approximately 60 linear feet of temporary excavation to install the outfall pipe within the bank of the river. Approximately 142 linear feet of temporary sheet pile will be installed around the excavation area for erosion control during installation. Following installation of the pipe, the excavated material will be placed on top of the pipe, the sheet pile will be removed and rip-rap (approximately 57 cubic yards below the mean high tide line) will be installed for stabilization. The remaining section of pipe will be anchored to the floor of the river.

#### 3.1 Marshlands Component:

The marshlands component of the project is defined as the part of the project in an estuarine area or any structure on or over an estuarine area, including but not limited to marinas, community docks, bridges, piers and bulkheads, requiring a permit under the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act. The marshlands component of the project includes the 48-inch pipe.

#### 3.2 Upland Component:

The upland component of the project is defined as service areas, amenities and recreational areas located inland of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act jurisdiction line, that serve or augment the functioning of the marshlands component of the project such as but not limited to dry stack boat storage, dock master shop, fuel storage and delivery facilities to serve the marshlands component of the project. As stated in the Coastal Marshlands Protection Rules, land disturbance and construction of structures within the 50-foot marshlands buffer in the upland component of the project shall be limited to the following: Construction and maintenance of permanent structures that are required for the functionality of and/or provide permanent access to the marshlands component for the project.

The upland area within the 50-foot buffer currently contains mowed and maintained upland adjacent to the existing treatment pond, an existing maintenance/access road, the existing structures associated with the existing outfall (grate inlet, flume, tank, and building). Portions of the buffer along the riverbank are vegetated and contain sapling, shrub and herbaceous species. Permanent structures to be located in the 50-foot buffer are all associated with the new outfall/diffuser and include a new junction box, valve box, and meter vault all of which are greater than 25' landward of the jurisdiction line and the 48-inch pipe. Other than the existing structures and structures described above, the upland component and buffer currently consists of pervious surfaces and will consist of pervious surfaces upon project completion.

Construction activities that will occur within the 50-foot buffer include temporary storage of equipment within cleared/mowed/maintained upland (clearing will occur in association with the laydown area/equipment storage area) and temporary clearing, excavation and backfilling associated with installation of the outfall pipe. During and

following completion of construction activities, BMPs will be employed for sedimentation and erosion control (i.e. silt fence, hay bales, grassing, etc.) and the project will be conducted in compliance with applicable erosion and sediment control responsibilities.

### **3.3 Stormwater Management:**

The proposed project does not include site development activities requiring development of a stormwater management plan. The project will implement standard BMP's during the construction phase for sedimentation and erosion control purposes and to protect adjacent tidal waters and marsh.

### **4.0 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS:**

The applicant reviewed four general outfall design alternatives. Extensive modeling efforts were performed to confirm that the design would provide increase in mixing and dispersion to decrease the maximum acute effluent concentration in the Savannah River. Four general alternatives were evaluated including:

- installation of approximately 500 linear feet of pipe perpendicular to the riverbank with duck bill diffusers on 16' center
- installation of approximately 270 linear feet of pipe with a trident outlet
- installation of approximately 750 feet of diffuser pipe with duck bill diffusers on 16" center (approximately 300 feet perpendicular to the riverbank and 450 linear feet parallel to the riverbank)
- the proposed 232 linear feet of 48" pipe perpendicular to the riverbank with 17 6" duckbill diffuser ports on 4'3" centers.

Based on the design review, the applicant proposed the least damaging practicable alternative which satisfied the overall project purpose.

### **5.0 ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:**

The proposed project includes installation of a diffuser pipe. The proposed project will not adversely affect essential fish habitat.

### **6.0 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES:**

RLC conducted a threatened and endangered species survey to determine the potential occurrence of animal and plants species (or their preferred habitats) currently listed as threatened or endangered by state and federal regulations [Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 USC 1531-1543)]. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lists the following plant and animal species as endangered or threatened in Chatham County, Georgia:

#### **PLANTS**

Pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*)

#### **MAMMALS**

Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeanglie*)

Northern Atlantic Right Whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*)

Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)

#### **BIRDS**

Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*)

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)

Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*)

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

#### **REPTILES**

Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*)

Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

Hawksbill Sea Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*)

Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)

Leatherback Sea Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

#### **AMPHIBIAN**

Flatwoods Salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*)

## **FISH**

Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*)

Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*)

Several protected species frequent coastal waters of Georgia, including the Northern Atlantic Right Whale, West Indian Manatee, five species of sea turtle, the Shortnose Sturgeon and the Atlantic Sturgeon. Based on the location of the proposed project, no adverse impacts to any individual or population of protected species is anticipated.

### **7.0 COMMERCIAL BAIT SHRIMP, OYSTER, AND CRABBING AREAS**

The proposed project is not located in a designated bait shrimp zone according to Georgia Department of Natural Resources *Commercial and Recreational Bait Shrimp Zones, Coastal Georgia* map. The project area is not listed on the *Georgia Harvester Reported Crabbing Areas* list, and the project area is not located in designated commercial or recreational oyster harvest areas.

### **8.0 IMPAIRED WATERS**

The subject waterway is not listed on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 303(d) list for impaired water bodies.

### **9.0 SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

This additional information is provided for compliance with Coastal Marshlands Protection Act of 1970 information requirements:

**OCGA 12-5-286. Permits to fill, drain, etc., marshlands.**

**(b) Each application for such permit shall be, properly executed, filed with the department on forms as prescribed by the department, and shall include:**

- (1) *The name and address of the applicant-***  
International Paper Company  
Attn: Douglas Johnson  
1 Bonnybridge Road  
Savannah, Georgia 31407  
912-966-4301  
[douglas.johnson@ipaper.com](mailto:douglas.johnson@ipaper.com)
- (2) *A plan or drawing showing the applicant's proposal and the manner or method by which such proposal shall be accomplished. Such plan shall identify the coastal marshlands affected-*** Please refer to attached construction plan.
- (3) *A plat of the area in which the proposed work will take place-*** See attached.
- (4) *A copy of the deed or other instrument under which the applicant claims title to the property or, if the applicant is not the owner, then a copy of the deed or other instrument under which the owner claims title together with written permission from the owner to carry out the project on his land. In lieu of a deed or other instrument referred to in this paragraph, the committee may accept some other reasonable evidence of ownership of the property in question or other lawful authority to make use of the property; The committee will not adjudicate title disputes concerning the property which is the subject of the application; provided, however, the committee may decline to process an application when submitted documents show conflicting deeds-*** See attached.
- (5) *A list of all adjoining landowners together with such owners' addresses, provided that if the names or addresses of adjoining landowners cannot be determined, the applicant shall file in lieu thereof a sworn affidavit that a diligent search, including, without limitation, a search of the records for the county tax assessor's office, has been made but that the applicant was not able to ascertain the names or addresses, as the case may be, of adjoining landowners-*** See attached.
- (6) *A letter from the local governing authority of the political subdivision in which the property is located, stating that the applicant's proposal is not in violation of any zoning law; See attached request. The letter from the local governing authority will be provided upon receipt.***

- (7) **A non-refundable application fee to be set by the board in an amount necessary to defray the administrative cost of issuing such permit. Renewal fees shall be equal to application fees, which shall not exceed \$1,000.00 for any one proposal and shall be paid to the department.** See attached check made payable to GADNR for \$500.
- (8) **A description from the applicant of alternative sites and why they are not feasible and a discussion of why the permit should be granted-** See attached project description.
- (9) **A statement from the applicant that he has made inquiry to the appropriate authorities that the proposed project is not over a landfill or hazardous waste site and that the site is otherwise suitable for the proposed project-** A review of the Hazardous Site Index for Chatham County, Georgia indicates that the subject property does not contain hazardous waste sites or landfills. A copy is attached.
- (10) **A copy of the water quality certification issued by the department if required for the proposed project-** Not applicable.
- (11) **Certification by the applicant of adherence to soil and erosion control responsibilities if required for the proposed project-** The project will conform to all building, land disturbing, and stormwater management requirements of Chatham County.
- (12) **Such additional information as is required by the committee to properly evaluate the application-** This application has been prepared with consideration for the interests of the general public of the State of Georgia as defined in OCGA 12-5-286(g):

OCGA 12-5-286. Permits to fill, drain, etc. marshlands.

- (g) **In passing upon the application for permit, the committee shall consider the public interest, which, for purposes of this part shall be deemed to be the following considerations:**
  - (1) **Whether or not unreasonably harmful obstruction to or alteration of the natural flow of navigational water within the affected area will arise as a result of the proposal-** The proposed project will not alter natural flow of navigable waters or obstruct public navigation.
  - (2) **Whether or not unreasonably harmful or increased erosion shoaling of channels, or stagnant areas of water will be created-** The proposed project will not increase erosion, shoaling of channels, or create stagnant areas of water.
  - (3) **Whether or not the granting of a permit and the completion of the applicant's proposal will unreasonably interfere with the conservation of fish, shrimp, oysters, crabs, clams, or other marine life, or wildlife, or other resources, including but not limited to water and oxygen supply-** The proposed project will not interfere with the conservation of fish, shrimp, oysters, crabs, clams, or other marine life, wildlife, or other resources, nor affect water and oxygen supply.

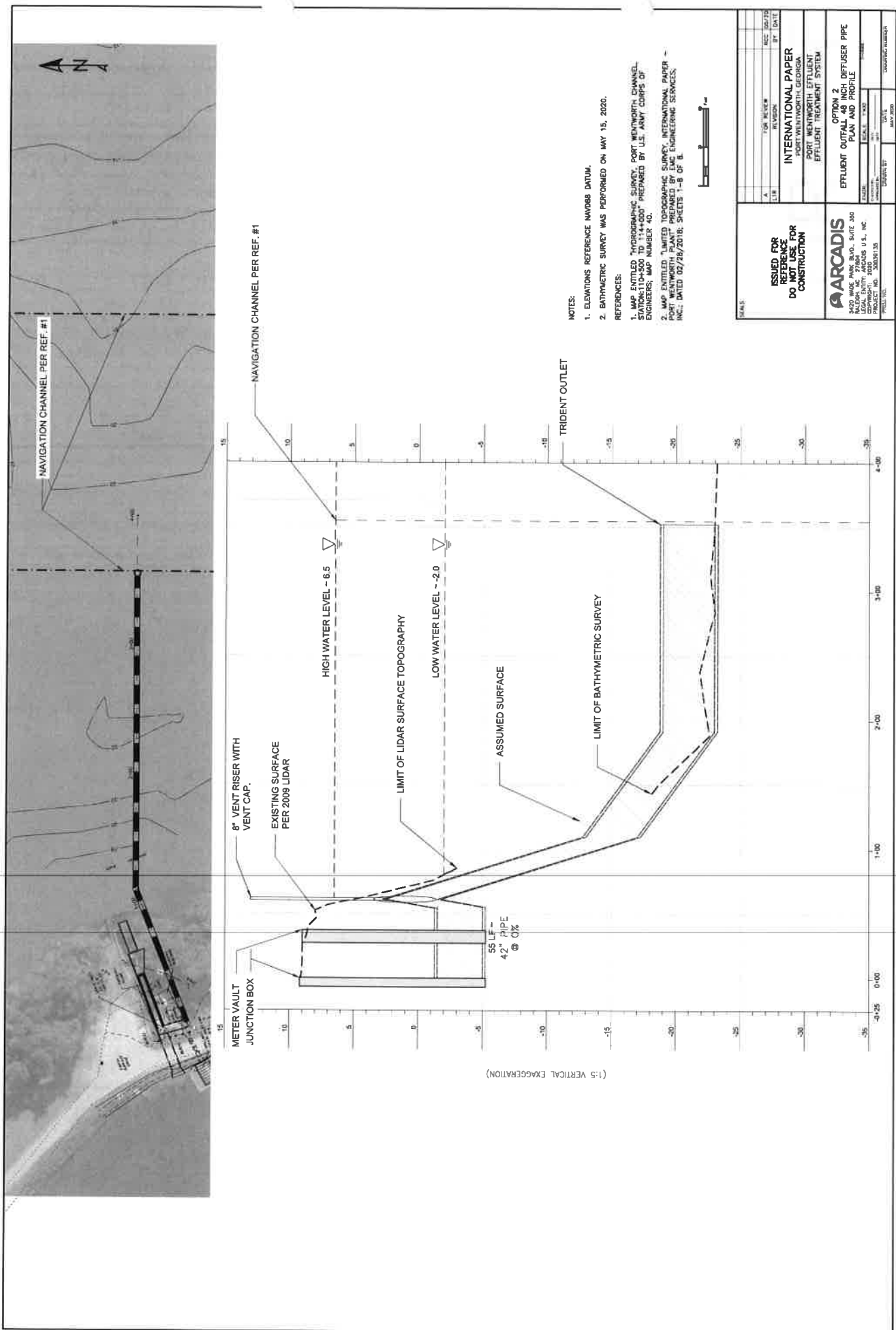
## List of Sites on HSI by County

HSI ID	Site Name	Site County
10060	Southwire - Copper Division	Carroll
10061	Southwire - Wire & Cable Division	Carroll
10360	Douglas & Lomason Company	Carroll
10413	Muse Scrap Metals	Carroll
10604	Trent Tube Division	Carroll
10648	Carroll County / Carrollton SR 166 LF	Carroll
10780	Dixie/Candlewick Hurst Yarn Mill (Former)	Catoosa
10218	Union Camp Corp - DBA Thomas Treating	Charlton
10003	CSX Transportation - Savannah (Tremont Road)	Chatham
10018	Atlantic Wood Industries	Chatham
10045	Colonial Terminals, Plant #1	Chatham
10091	Travis Field/Savannah International Airport	Chatham
10095	Central of GA RR/Bernuth-Lembcke Site	Chatham
10098	Colonial Terminals, Plant #2	Chatham
10114	Union Camp Corp - Former Amoco Property	Chatham
10128	Atlanta Gas Light Company - Savannah MGP Site	Chatham
10162	Ashland Chemical Company	Chatham
10179	Deptford Tract Landfill	Chatham
10208	139 Brampton Road	Chatham
10241	Union Camp Corp - Allen Blvd Landfill	Chatham
10351	ARAMARK Uniform Services	Chatham
10371	Southern States Phosphate & Fertilizer Co.	Chatham
10372	Truman Parkway, Phase II	Chatham
10395	Hunter Army Airfield, Fire Training Area	Chatham
10406	McKenzie Tank Lines, Inc.	Chatham
10415	Savannah Electric - Plant Kraft	Chatham
10440	Blue Ribbon Dry Cleaners	Chatham
10464	Vopak Terminal Savannah	Chatham
10497	Savannah Dry Cleaners	Chatham
10521	Hunter Army Airfield - MCA Barracks	Chatham
10553	Georgia Air National Guard/Savannah/Site 8	Chatham
10579	Abercorn & Largo Development	Chatham
10590	Central of Georgia Railroad Company - Battlefield Park	Chatham
10591	Southern Motors of Savannah, Inc.	Chatham
10611	CSXT Depriest Signal Shop	Chatham
10641	Tronox (fka Kerr McGee Pigments, Inc.)	Chatham
10649	Chatham County Landfill	Chatham
10696	Hercules, Inc.	Chatham
10698	Norfolk Southern - Natrochem, Inc., Site	Chatham
10788	Southside Cleaners	Chatham
10789	Dry Clean, USA	Chatham
10849	Toto Distribution (Former)	Chatham
10867	Coastal Concrete, Inc.	Chatham
10903	Hunter Army Airfield/TCE Plume	Chatham
10905	CSXT Property on Feeley Avenue	Chatham
10919	2217 West Bay Street	Chatham
10454	Chattooga County - Penn Bridge Rd Ph 1 (SL)	Chattooga
10650	Cherokee County - Blalock Road Landfill	Cherokee
10014	Westinghouse Electric Corp	Clarke
10052	Georgia Power - Athens Foundry Street Property	Clarke

**ATTACHMENT G**

**PROPERTY OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTATION**









# NOTES:

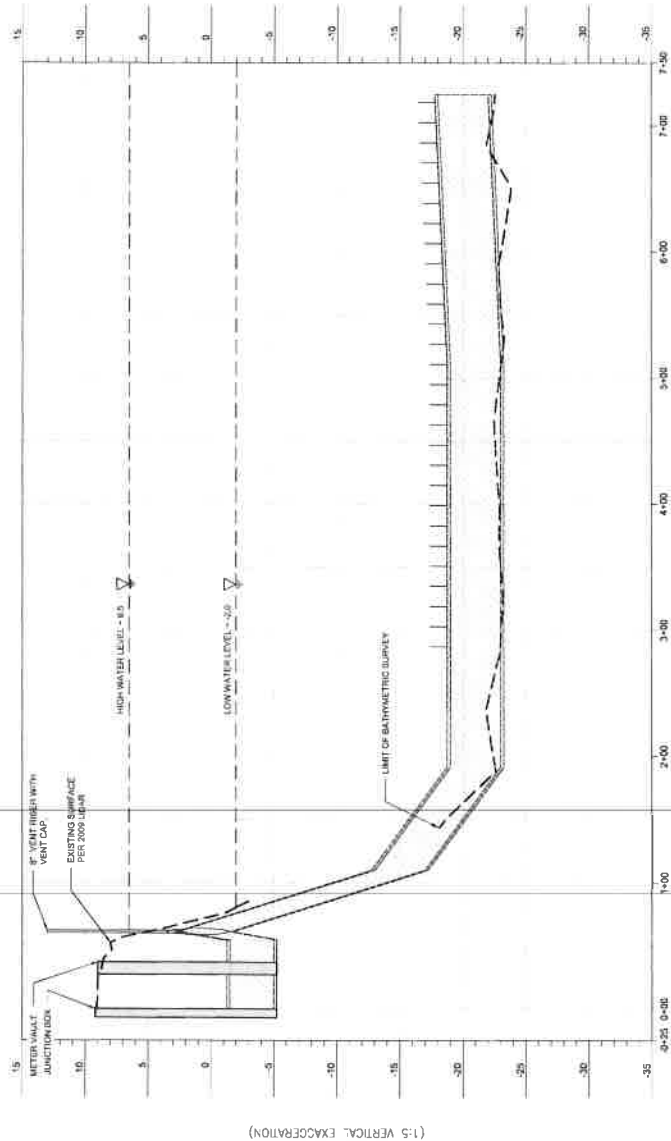
- ELEVATIONS REFERENCE NAVD83 DATUM.
  - BATHYMETRIC SURVEY WAS PERFORMED ON MAY 15, 2020.
- REFERENCES:
- MAP ENTITLED "BATHYMETRIC SURVEY, PORT WENTWORTH CHANNEL, STATION 10+500 TO 114+000" PREPARED BY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS; MAP NUMBER 40.
  - MAP ENTITLED "LIMITED TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, INTERNATIONAL PAPER - PORT WENTWORTH PLANT, PREPARED BY EMC ENGINEERING SERVICES, INC.; DATED 02/28/2016; SHEETS 1-8 OF 8.

## SCALE



ISSUED FOR REFERENCE DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION	FOR REVIEW	DATE
INTERNATIONAL PAPER	REVISION	DATE
PORT WENTWORTH EFFLUENT EFFLUENT TREATMENT SYSTEM		
OPTION 3 EFFLUENT OUTFALL 48 INCH DIFFUSER PIPE PLAN AND PROFILE		
ARCADIS	DESIGNED BY	DATE
2400 W. MAIN ST., SUITE 200 BALDWIN, NC 27604 CONTACT: 703.200.1234 PROJECT NO. 5009735	CHECKED BY	DATE
	APPROVED BY	DATE
	DATE	DATE
	DATE	DATE

# PROFILE



(1:5 VERTICAL EXAGGERATION)



## NOTES:

- ELEVATIONS REFERENCE NAVD83 DATUM.
  - BATHYMETRIC SURVEY WAS PERFORMED ON MAY 15, 2020.
- REFERENCES:
- MAP ENTITLED "BATHYMETRIC SURVEY, PORT WENTWORTH CHANNEL, STATIONS 1+00 TO 1+4+00", PREPARED BY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MAP NUMBER 40.
  - MAP ENTITLED "LIMITED TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY, INTERNATIONAL PAPER - PORT WENTWORTH PLANT, PREPARED BY EMC ENGINEERING SERVICES, INC., DATED 02/28/2018, SHEETS 1-B OF 8.

ISSUED FOR REFERENCE DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION		INTERNATIONAL PAPER PORT WENTWORTH, GEORGIA EFFLUENT TREATMENT SYSTEM	
AARCADIS 4000 W. BAYVIEW BLVD., SUITE 300 BALDWIN, AL 36606 LOCAL OFFICE: 205.666.1100 PROJECT NO. 20000133		OPTION 3 EFFLUENT OUTFALL 48 INCH DIFFUSER PIPE PLAN AND PROFILE	
PROJECT NO. 20000133		DRAWING NUMBER	
DATE: 05/15/2020		DATE: 05/15/2020	
BY: J. J. JONES		BY: J. J. JONES	
CHECKED BY: J. J. JONES		CHECKED BY: J. J. JONES	
APPROVED BY: J. J. JONES		APPROVED BY: J. J. JONES	

NRHP Database Query; Chatham County

Reference Number	State	County	City	Resource Name	Address	Listed Date
82002391	GEORGIA	Chatham	Burroughs	St. Bartholomew's Church	Cheves Rd.	19820617
97000814	GEORGIA	Chatham	Chatham	Savannah and Ogeechee Canal	Roughly along I-95, between the Savannah and Ogeechee Rs.	19970811
14000533	GEORGIA	Chatham	Chatham	Kensington Park--Groveland Historic District	Roughly bounded by DeRenne & Waters Aves., Abercorn & Johnston Sts.	20140830
78000969	GEORGIA	Chatham	Nicholsonville	Nicholsonville Baptist Church	White Bluff Rd.	19780522
75000575	GEORGIA	Chatham	Port Wentworth	Mulberry Grove Site	Address Restricted	19750717
83000188	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Slotin Building	101 W. Broad St.	19830324
84000959	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	St. Philip AME Church	613 W. Broad St.	19840802
85000934	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Charity Hospital	644 W. 36th St.	19850502
74000664	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Green-Meldrim House	Macon and Bull Sts.	19740121
85001787	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Ardsley Park-Chatham Crescent Historic District	Roughly bounded by Ardsley Pk., Chatham Crescent, Bull St., Baldwin	19850815
84003874	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Isle of Hope Historic District	Roughly bounded by Skidaway River, Parkersburg Rd., Island, Cornus, and Noble Glen	19840907
77000413	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Hodgson, W. B., Hall	501 Whitaker St.	19770325
78000971	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	First Bryan Baptist Church	575 W. Bryan St.	19780522
81000197	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Hill Hall at Savannah State College	Savannah State College campus	19810423
73000615	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Wormsloe Plantation	Isle of Hope and Long	19730426
74000666	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	U.S. Customhouse	1--3 E. Bay St.	19740529
71000271	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Sturges, Oliver, House	27 Abercorn St.	19710714
77000414	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Massie Common School House	207 E. Gordon St.	19770413
79000704	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Lebanon Plantation	SW of Savannah	19791129
73000614	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Bethesda Home for Boys	S of Savannah at Ferguson Ave. and Bethesda Rd.	19730912
74000663	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse	Wright Sq.	19740607
76000611	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Owens-Thomas House	124 Abercorn St.	19760511
66000277	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Savannah Historic District	Bounded by E. Broad, Gwinnett, and W. Broad Sts. and the Savannah River	19661113
76000612	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Telfair Academy	121 Barnard St.	19760511

NRHP Database Query; Chatham County

77000415	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Wild Heron	15 mi. SW of Savannah off U.S. 17	19771216
78000972	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Laurel Grove-South Cemetery	37th St.	19780906
74000665	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Savannah Victorian Historic District	Roughly bounded by Gwinnett, Price, Anderson, and Montgomery Sts.	19741211
66000276	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Low, Juliette Gordon, Historic District	10 Oglethorpe Ave., E., 330 Drayton St., 329 Abercorn St.	19661015
72000374	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Davenport, Isaiah, House	324 E. State St.	19720922
70000199	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Central of Georgia Railway Company Shop Property	Between W. Jones St. and Louisville Rd.	19700305
76000610	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Central of Georgia Depot and Trainshed	W. Broad and Liberty Sts.	19761208
78000970	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Central of Georgia Railroad: Savannah Shops and Terminal Facilities	W. Broad St. and Railroad Ave.	19780602
83000187	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Laurel Grove-North Cemetery	W. Anderson St.	19830804
82002392	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Savannah Victorian Historic District (Boundary Increase)	Bounded by Gwinnett, Anderson and 31st Sts.	19820520
86003746	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	CSS GEORGIA (ironclad)	Address Restricted	19870210
70000200	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Fort James Jackson	Islands Expwy.	19700218
70000201	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Scarborough, William, House	41 W. Broad St.	19700622
66000064	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Fort Pulaski National Monument	17 mi. W of Savannah, Cockspur Island	19661015
90000492	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Two Pierpont Circle	2 Pierpont Cir.	19900404
91000558	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Drouillard--Maupas House	2422 Abercorn St.	19910513
96000468	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Ossabaw Island	7 mi. S of Savannah, bounded by the Atlantic Ocean, Bear R., Ogeechee R., and St. Catherine's Sound	19960506
97000813	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Thomas Square Streetcar Historic District	Roughly bounded by Anderson Ln., 42nd St., Victory Dr., E. Broad St., and Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.	19970729

NRHP Database Query; Chatham County

98000028	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Cuyler--Brownville Historic District	Roughly bounded by Anderson Ln., W. 31st St., Montgomery St., Victory Dr., Ogeechee Rd., and Hopkins St.	19980213
99000554	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Daffin Park--Parkside Place Historic District	Bounded by Victory Dr., Waters Ave., Bee St. and 51st Street Ln.	19990512
01000035	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Bonaventure Cemetery	Bonaventure Rd., 1 mi. N of US 80	20010202
01000741	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Gordonston Historic District	Roughly bounded by Skidaway Rd., Goebel Ave., Gwinnett St., and Pennsylvania Ave.	20011011
01000854	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	New Ogeechee Missionary Baptist Church	751 Chevis Rd.	20010808
02001292	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Eastside Historic District	Roughly bounded by E. Broad, Cedar, Gwinnett and Anderson Sts.	20021107
09000184	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Fairway Oaks-Greenvview Historic District	Bounded approx. by DeRenne Dr., Waters Ave., Truman Pkwy., and Casey Canal, and the Live Oaks Golf Course	20090331
09000491	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Eureka Club--Farr's Point	2326 E. Blvd.	20090708
13000826	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Drayton Arms Apartments	102 E. Liberty St.	20131016
14000890	GEORGIA	Chatham	Savannah	Pine Gardens Historic District	Roughly bounded by Goebel Ave., Beech & Capitol Sts.	20141105
82002393	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Fort Screven Historic District	Tilton, Butler, Van Horn, Railroad and Alger Aves., and Pulaski Rd.	19820525
98000971	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Tybee Island Strand Cottages Historic District	Along Butler Ave., between 12 St. and 14th St.	19990402
99000928	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Tybee Island Back River Historic District	Along Chatham Ave., from Tybee River to Venetian Dr.	19990805
03000286	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Sea View Apartments	7 18th St.	20030422

NRHP Database Query; Chatham County

08000349	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Mulherin--Righton Raised Tybee Cottage	14 8th Pl.	20080429
08000441	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Johnson, J. Herbert and Julia, Raised Tybee Cottage	1306 Jones Ave.	20080521
08000711	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Dutton--Waller Raised Tybee Cottage	1416 7th Ave.	20080724
08000713	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Morgan--Ille Cottage	703 2nd Ave.	20080724
10000273	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Carbo House, The	9 Tybrisa St.	20100521
10000804	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Rourke, James and Odessa, Jr., Raised Tybee Cottage	702 14th St	20100923
14000345	GEORGIA	Chatham	Tybee Island	Bordley Cottage--Beach View House	1701 Butler Ave.	20140627
00000714	GEORGIA	Chatham	Vernonburg	Vernonburg Historic District	Dancy Ave., Rockwell Ave. and S. Rockwell Ave.	20000622



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Georgia Ecological Services Field Office  
355 East Hancock Avenue  
Room 320  
Athens, GA 30601  
Phone: (706) 613-9493 Fax: (706) 613-6059



In Reply Refer To:

February 28, 2021

Consultation Code: 04EG1000-2021-SLI-1302

Event Code: 04EG1000-2021-E-02491

Project Name: port wentworth mill

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your recent request for information on federally listed species and important wildlife habitats that may occur in your project area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has responsibility for certain species of wildlife under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) as amended (16 USC 701-715), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) as amended (16 USC 668-668c). We are providing the following guidance to assist you in determining which federally imperiled species may or may not occur within your project area and to recommend some conservation measures that can be included in your project design if you determine those species or designated critical habitat may be affected by your proposed project.

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### **FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AND DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT**

Attached is a list of endangered, threatened, and proposed species that may occur in your project area. Your project area may not necessarily include all or any of these species. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action "may affect" endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service, to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have "no effect" on threatened or endangered species or their respective critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service. Nevertheless, it is a violation of Federal law to harm or harass any federally-listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species without the appropriate permit.

If you determine that your proposed action may affect federally listed species, please consult with the Service. Through the consultation process, we will analyze information contained in a biological assessment or equivalent document that you provide. If your proposed action is associated with Federal funding or permitting, consultation will occur with the Federal agency under section 7(a)(2) of the ESA. Otherwise, an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (also known as a Habitat Conservation Plan) may be necessary to exempt harm or harass federally listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species. For more information regarding formal consultation and HCPs, please see the Service's Consultation Handbook and Habitat Conservation Plans at [www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations](http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations).

**Action Area.** The scope of federally listed species compliance not only includes direct effects, but also any indirect effects of project activities (e.g., equipment staging areas, offsite borrow material areas, or utility relocations). The action area is the spatial extent of an action's direct and indirect modifications to the land, water, or air (50 CFR 402.02). Large projects may have effects to land, water, or air outside the immediate footprint of the project, and these areas should be included as part of the action area. Effects to land, water, or air outside of a project footprint could include things like lighting, dust, smoke, and noise. To obtain a complete list of species, the action area should be uploaded or drawn in IPaC rather than just the project footprint.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

If you determine that your action may affect any federally listed species and would like technical assistance from our office please provide the following information (reference to these items can be found in 50 CFR§402.13 and 402.14):

A description of the proposed action, including any measures intended to avoid, minimize, or offset effects of the action. Consistent with the nature and scope of the proposed action, the description shall provide sufficient detail to assess the effects of the action on listed species and critical habitat, including:

1. The purpose of the action;
2. The duration and timing of the action;
3. The location of the action;
4. The specific components of the action and how they will be carried out;
5. Description of areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the action;



6. Information on the presence of listed species in the action area;
7. Description of effects of the action on species in the action area;
8. Maps, drawings, blueprints, or similar schematics of the action; and
9. Any other available information related to the nature and scope of the proposed action relevant to its effects on listed species or designated critical habitat (examples include: stormwater plans, management plans, erosion and sediment plans).

**Please submit all consultation documents via email to [gaes\\_assistance@fws.gov](mailto:gaes_assistance@fws.gov) or by using IPaC, uploaded documents, and sharing the project with a specific Georgia Ecological Services staff member. If the project is on-going, documents can also be sent to the Georgia ES staff member currently working with you on your project. For Georgia Department of Transportation-related projects, please work with the Office of Environmental Services ecologist to determine the appropriate USFWS transportation liaison.**

## **WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS**

Under Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, Federal agencies are required to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and floodplains, and preserve and enhance their natural and beneficial values. These habitats should be conserved through avoidance, or mitigated to ensure that there would be no net loss of wetlands function and value.

We encourage you to use the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps in conjunction with ground-truthing to identify wetlands occurring in your project area. The Service's NWI program website, [www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html](http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html) integrates digital map data with other resource information. We also recommend you contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for permitting requirements under section 404 of the Clean Water Act if your proposed action could impact floodplains or wetlands.

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## **MIGRATORY BIRDS**

The MBTA prohibits the taking of migratory birds, nests, and eggs, except as permitted by the Service's Migratory Bird Office. To minimize the likelihood of adverse impacts to migratory birds, we recommend construction activities occur outside the general bird nesting season from March through August, or that areas proposed for construction during the nesting season be surveyed, and when occupied, avoided until the young have fledged.

We recommend review of Birds of Conservation Concern at website [www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html](http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html) to fully evaluate the effects to the birds at your site. This list identifies birds that are potentially threatened by disturbance and construction.

Information related to wind energy development and migratory birds can be found at this location: <https://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/guidance-documents/wind-energy.php>.

## **BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES**

The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was delisted under the ESA on August 9, 2007. Both the bald eagle and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are still protected under the MBTA and BGEPA. The BGEPA affords both eagles protection in addition to that provided by the MBTA, in particular, by making it unlawful to “disturb” eagles. Under the BGEPA, the Service may issue limited permits to incidentally “take” eagles (e.g., injury, interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior nest abandonment). For information on bald and golden eagle management guidelines, we recommend you review information provided at <https://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/bald-and-golden-eagle-information.php> and <https://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/eagle-management.php>. Additionally the following site will help you determine if your activity is likely to take or disturb bald eagles in the southeast (<https://www.fws.gov/southeast/our-services/eagle-technical-assistance>).

## **NATIVE BAT COMMENTS**

If your species list includes Indiana bat or northern long-eared bat and the project is expected to impact forested habitat that is appropriate for maternity colonies of these species, forest clearing during the winter. Federally listed bats could be actively present in forested landscapes from April 1 to October 15 of any year and have non-volant pups from May 15 to July 31 in any year. Non-volant pups are incapable of flight and are vulnerable to disturbance during that time.

Additional information on bat avoidance and minimization can be found at the following link: [https://www.fws.gov/athens/transportation/pdfs/Bat\\_AMMs.pdf](https://www.fws.gov/athens/transportation/pdfs/Bat_AMMs.pdf).

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Additional information that addresses at-risk or high priority natural resources can be found in the State Wildlife Action Plan (<https://georgiawildlife.com/WildlifeActionPlan>), at Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division Rare Species and Natural Community Portal (<https://georgiawildlife.com/conservation/species-of-concern>), Georgia's Natural, Archaeological, and Historic Resources GIS portal (<https://www.gnahrgis.org/gnahrgis/index.do>), and Georgia Ecological Services Watershed Guidance portal (<https://www.fws.gov/athens/transportation/coordination.html>).

Thank you for your concern for endangered and threatened species. We appreciate your efforts to identify and avoid impacts to listed and sensitive species in your project area. For further consultation on your proposed activity, please email [gaes\\_assistance@fws.gov](mailto:gaes_assistance@fws.gov) and reference your Service Consultation Tracking Number (Consultation Code).

This letter constitutes Georgia Ecological Services' general comments under the authority of the Endangered Species Act.

**Attachment(s):**

- **Official Species List**
- **Migratory Birds**

## Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Georgia Ecological Services Field Office**

355 East Hancock Avenue

Room 320

Athens, GA 30601

(706) 613-9493

## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04EG1000-2021-SLI-1302

Event Code: 04EG1000-2021-E-02491

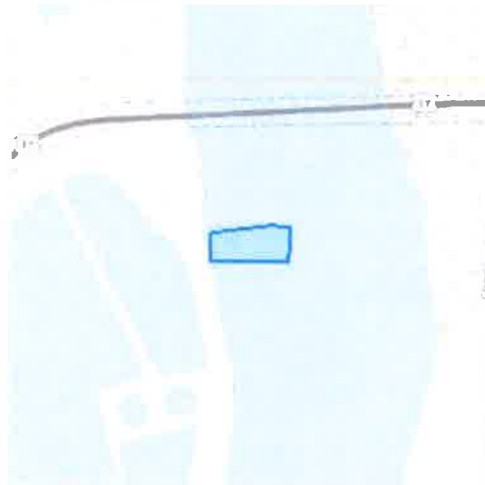
Project Name: port wentworth mill

Project Type: DEVELOPMENT

Project Description: development

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@32.163511150000005,-81.15556736373901,14z>



Counties: Chatham County, Georgia

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 7 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
<b>West Indian Manatee <i>Trichechus manatus</i></b> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. <b><i>This species is also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and may have additional consultation requirements.</i></b> Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469</a>	Threatened

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
<b>Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i></b> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477</a>	Threatened
<b>Wood Stork <i>Mycteria americana</i></b> Population: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8477">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8477</a>	Threatened

## Reptiles

NAME

STATUS

**Eastern Indigo Snake *Drymarchon corais couperi*****Threatened**

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/646>**Gopher Tortoise *Gopherus polyphemus*****Candidate**

Population: eastern

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6994>

## Amphibians

NAME

STATUS

**Frosted Flatwoods Salamander *Ambystoma cingulatum*****Threatened**There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4981>

## Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

**Pondberry *Lindera melissifolia*****Endangered**

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

Species profile: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1279>

## Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

## Migratory Birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<b>American Kestrel <i>Falco sparverius paulus</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 31
<b>Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i></b> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626</a>	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31



NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<b>Black Skimmer <i>Rynchops niger</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234</a>	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
<b>Clapper Rail <i>Rallus crepitans</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Apr 10 to Oct 31
<b>Common Ground-dove <i>Columbina passerina exigua</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Feb 1 to Dec 31
<b>Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina arcticola</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Gull-billed Tern <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9501">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9501</a>	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
<b>Kentucky Warbler <i>Oporornis formosus</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 20
<b>King Rail <i>Rallus elegans</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8936">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8936</a>	Breeds May 1 to Sep 5
<b>Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Apr 20 to Sep 10
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679</a>	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Marbled Godwit <i>Limosa fedoa</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481</a>	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Nelson's Sparrow <i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Prairie Warbler <i>Dendroica discolor</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<b>Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
<b>Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
<b>Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres morinella</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Rusty Blackbird <i>Euphagus carolinus</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Short-billed Dowitcher <i>Limnodromus griseus</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480</a>	Breeds elsewhere
<b>Swallow-tailed Kite <i>Elanoides forficatus</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938</a>	Breeds Mar 10 to Jun 30
<b>Willet <i>Tringa semipalmata</i></b> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5

## Probability Of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (📊)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

### Breeding Season (☀)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

### Survey Effort (|)

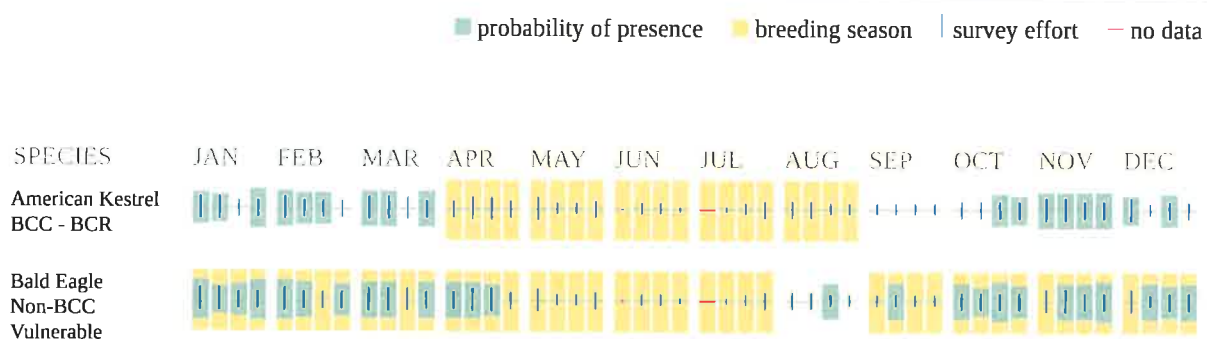
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

**No Data (—)**

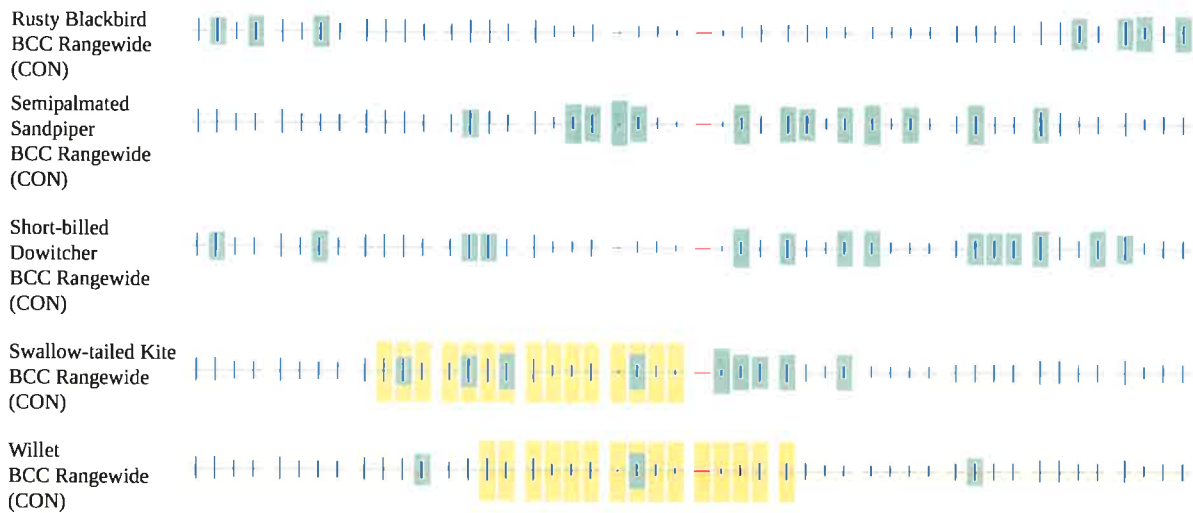
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

## Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.







Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

## Migratory Birds FAQ

**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding,](#)



[and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

### **What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can

implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

**Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

**What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

**Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Savannah District EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip

Project:	IP Port Wentworth Diffuser	County:	Chatham
Applicant:	International Paper Company	Coordinates:	32.1634, -81.1560
Consultant:	Resource & Land Consultants	Date of Consultants Assessment:	3/1/2021
FWS-GA Review of Project or Survey Data (yes/no):	no	Date of FWS-GA Review:	n/a
Project Modifications After FWS-GA Review (including changes in timing):			
n/a			

Species IPaC Indicated May Occur on Site	Ipac Status	Critical Habitat (yes / no)	Applicable EDGES	Species Habitat(s), as Described in the EDGES (e.g., wetland, stream, forested, flatwoods, sandhills)	Does this Habitat occur on Project Site (yes / no)	Will this Habitat be Altered by the Project (yes / no)	Determination	
							EDGES	RLC
Red-cockaded Woodpecker (Picoides borealis)	Endangered	No	Red-Cockaded Woodpecker	pine forest >100 acres in size, with >60 year old and >10 inches DBH	No	No	NLAA	-
Wood Stork (Mycteria americana)	Threatened	No	Wood Stork	relatively open aquatic vegetation, calm water, permanent or seasonal water depths 2-15"	No	No	NLAA	-
Eastern Indigo Snake (Drymarchon corais couperi)	Threatened	No	Eastern Indigo Snake	longleaf pine and wiregrass community	No	No	NLAA	-
Gopher Tortoise (Gopherus polyphemus )	Candidate	No	n/a	longleaf pine and wiregrass community	No	No	n/a	No Effect
Frosted Flatwoods Salamander (Ambystoma cingulatum)	Threatened	No	Flatwoods Salamander	longleaf pine wiregrass flatwoods or slash pine flatwoods (not managed pine plantations)	No	No	No Effect	-
Pondberry (Lindera melissifolia)	Endangered	No	n/a	pond margins and wet savannas	No	No	n/a	No Effect

Please provide this form, the IPaC map and printout of listed species/Critical Habitat that may occur on site, and any FWS-GA comments on the project to the Savannah District with your application/PCN.



# DRAFT – Eastern Indigo Snake -- DRAFT

## Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered & Threatened Species (EDGES)

### South Georgia Coastal Plain Counties

**Species Covered by This EDGES:** Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*) - Threatened

The Eastern indigo snake (EIS) in Georgia is closely associated with the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), a reptile that excavates extensive underground burrows that provide the snake shelter from winter cold and summer desiccation. Gopher tortoises are a characteristic species of the longleaf pine and wiregrass community, which includes sandhills, dry flatwoods, and turkey oak scrub. Historically, this community was found in open-canopied forest that allowed abundant sunlight penetration and conditions favorable for a rich growth of herbaceous vegetation. Little of this habitat still exists; many tortoises have been forced into artificial habitats, such as roadsides and old fields that retain the three key habitat



requirements: sandy soil for burrowing, sunlight, and abundant herbaceous vegetation.



During the warmer months, EIS during the day forage on the edge of wetlands where frogs and other snakes typically are abundant. In Georgia, adult EIS may range 1-4 mi from the overwintering sandhill, although they typically return to the same sandhills in winter. Breeding occurs November - April, and females often place eggs in the moist sand of tortoise burrows. Threats to EIS include loss and fragmentation of sandhill habitats that support tortoises, removal of prescribed fire, which maintains suitable understory habitat, and declining gopher tortoise populations.

This EDGES covers maintenance of existing structures and new development, including subdivisions, commercial development, roads, water supply infrastructure, and sewer mains, pipe and powerlines, stream restoration and stabilization (including mitigation banks) and similar projects. It does not cover new drinking water reservoirs, airports, or similar large-impact projects.

## Endangered Species Act Consultation Checklist:

### Applicant:

1. IPAC indicates EIS may occur in the project area.
  - a. No.....No effect. Provide IPaC information to the Savannah District with application/PCN.
  - b. Yes.....Go to #2.
2. The Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Field Office (FWS-GA) provided documentation stating project impacts to EIS were likely to be minimal (FWS-GA signed letter or sticker, T&E survey where FWS-GA provided concurrence with negative findings, or similar documentation).
  - a. No.....Provide completed EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip, with supporting documentation, and a soil map with the project site clearly marked, to the Savannah District with 404 application/PCN.
  - b. Yes.....Provide FWS-GA project review documentation and/or survey data to the Savannah District with application/PCN.

**Savannah District:**

3. A soil map, with the site clearly marked (provided by applicant), shows suitable soils for gopher tortoise burrows on site (see list of suitable soils list below).
  - a. No.....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS-GA concurrence not needed.
  - b. Yes.....Go to #4.
  
4. There are gopher tortoise burrows on site.
  - a. No.....NLAA. Consultation complete. Further review from FWS-GA not needed.
  - b. Yes or Don't Know.....Go to #5.
  
5. The area has an open tree canopy AND abundant forb groundcover (see photos below) OR is on a right-of-way, fence row, orchard edge, golf course, old field, or pastureland.
  - a. No .....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS concurrence is needed, in writing, for JPNs, but is assumed for other Savannah District actions if FWS-GA does not respond.
  - b. Yes.....May affect. Consult with FWS-GA



Best Gopher Tortoise Soils	Moderate Gopher Tortoise Soils	Marginal Gopher Tortoise Soils
Bonifay	Bonneau	Ailey
Centenary	Fuquay	Albany
Foxworth	Hurricane	Cowarts
Lakeland	Luch	Norfolk
Lucknow	Mandarin	Orangeburg
Troup	Meldrim	Tifton
Valdosta	Ridgewood	Vaughan
	Stilson	
	Uchee	



# **DRAFT – Flatwoods Salamanders -- DRAFT**

## **Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered & Threatened Species (EDGES)**

**Baker, Bryan, Charlton, Chatham, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Evans, Lanier, Lee, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Miller, Screven, and Seminole Counties**

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**Species Covered by This EDGES:** Frosted flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*, threatened) and Reticulated flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma bishopi*, Endangered)

These flatwoods salamanders are found only in the Georgia and South Carolina coastal plain and the Florida panhandle. They occur in isolated populations scattered across the historical range in remnants of their suitable habitat.

Flatwoods salamanders are pond-breeding amphibians that have aquatic larval stages and terrestrial juvenile and adult stages. Adult flatwoods salamanders migrate in the fall to seasonally-flooded depressional wetlands, where they breed in small, isolated ephemeral ponds. Eggs hatch into larvae in the winter and metamorphose between March and May. Juveniles disperse from ponds to terrestrial habitat after metamorphosing. The terrestrial adults and juveniles spend much of their time below ground in crayfish burrows or root channels until it is time to return to their natal pond to breed. Breeding wetlands are located in the same mesic longleaf pine-wire grass dominated flatwoods, where adults and juveniles reside outside of the breeding season.



**restoration/ stabilization, and similar projects. It does not cover new drinking water reservoirs, airports, or similar large-impact projects.**

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Frosted (above) and reticulated flatwoods salamanders



Habitat loss is the primary cause of the rapid decline of these species throughout their ranges. Agriculture and silviculture have altered much of Georgia's longleaf pine-flatwoods ecosystem and eliminated adult habitat and their breeding wetlands. Fire suppression in the Coastal Plain has reduced suitable habitat by allowing midstories and closed canopies to develop which shade and suppress herbaceous groundcover.

**This EDGES covers (1) existing structure maintenance and (2) new development, including subdivisions, commercial development, roads, pipelines and powerlines, stream and wetland**

### **Endangered Species Act Consultation Checklist:**

#### **Applicant:**

1. IPAC indicates one of these flatwoods salamanders may occur in the project area (see range map on Page 2).
  - a. No.....No effect. Provide IPaC information to the Savannah District with application/PCN.
  - b. Yes.....Go to #2.
2. The Fish and Wildlife Service-Georgia Field Offices (FWS-GA) provided documentation evaluating habitat, potential presence of species, suitable survey methodology and/or potential project impacts (FWS-GA signed letter or sticker, T&E survey where FWS-GA provided concurrence with negative findings, or similar documentation).

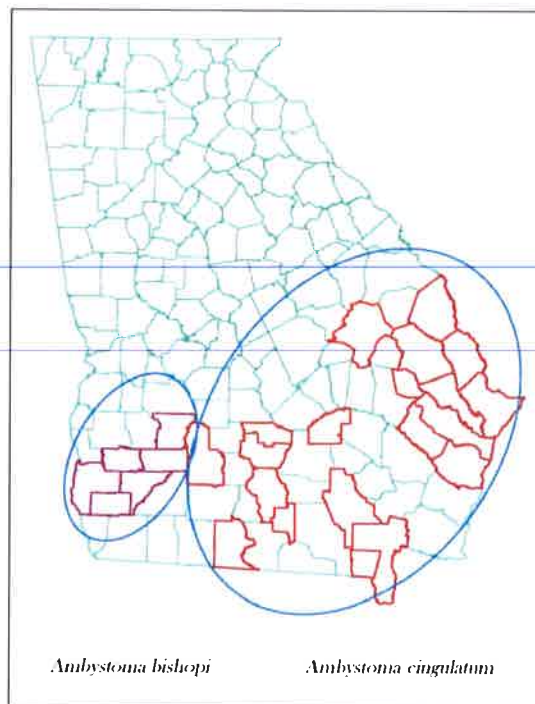
- a. No.....Provide completed EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip and supporting documentation to the Savannah District with 404 application/PCN.
- b. Yes.....Provide FWS-GA project review documentation and/or survey data to the Savannah District with application/PCN.

**Savannah District:**

3. The project occurs in Baker or Miller Counties, where Critical Habitat for the reticulated flatwoods salamander has been designated (Critical Habitat for the frosted flatwoods salamander has not been identified in Georgia).
  - a. No.....Savannah District has determined “No adverse modification to Critical Habitat.” Go to #4.
  - b. Yes.....Contact FWS-GA to determine if consultation is needed.
4. The project will impact longleaf pine–wiregrass flatwoods or slash pine flatwoods (not managed pine plantations).
  - a. No.....No effect. FWS-GA concurrence is not needed.
  - b. Yes.....Go to #5.
5. Project information listed below is provided to assist the Savannah District and FWS-GA evaluate T&E impacts:
  - a. No.....Request the information and, once received, continue with 6b.
  - b. Yes.....Share data with FWS-GA and continue consultation. If Consultation results in a Corps’ determination of:
    - i) NLAA, and FWS-GA concurs, consultation complete.
    - ii) LAA, and FWS-GA concurs, initiate formal consultation.

**Information to be Provided the Savannah District for Endangered Species Act Review**

- A map detailing the size and location of pine flatwoods and isolated depressional wetlands on the site.
- A description of each wetland and flatwoods habitat that will be impacted by the project, keyed to the map.
- An evaluation of the effects of the project on fire frequency on the site.





# **DRAFT – Red-Cockaded Woodpecker -- DRAFT**

## **Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered & Threatened Species (EDGES)**

### **South Georgia Coastal Plain Counties**

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#### **Species Covered by This EDGES: Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) - Endangered**

Red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCW) live in mature pine forests—specifically those with 80-120-year-old longleaf pines and/or 70-100-year-old loblolly pines. From the late 1800s to the mid-1900s, RCWs declined rapidly as habitat was altered, primarily for timber and agricultural use. RCWs excavate cavities exclusively in living pine trees, preferring older pines infected with the fungal red heart disease that softens heartwood. RCWs live in groups with a breeding pair and as many as four helpers, usually male offspring from the previous year. Cavity trees occupied by a group are called a cluster and may include 1 to 20 or more trees on 3 to 60 acres. Each RCW group needs about 200 acres of old pine forest to support foraging and nesting habitat needs.



RCWs play a vital role in the intricate web of life of southern pine forests. A number of birds and mammals use the nest cavities that the woodpeckers excavate. Larger woodpeckers

may take over a RCW cavity, sometimes enlarging the hole enough to allow screech owls, wood ducks, and even raccoons to move in. Flying squirrels, several species of reptiles and amphibians, and insects, primarily bees and wasps, also use red-cockaded cavities.

Primary threats to RCWs include loss of old growth pine forests, short-rotation pine production that precludes trees old enough to provide nest cavities, and exclusion of fire, which creates a dense pine/hardwood forest.

**This EDGES covers new development, including subdivisions, commercial development, roads, water supply infrastructure, sewer mains, pipe and powerlines, stream restoration/stabilization (including mitigation banks) and similar projects. It does not cover new drinking water reservoirs, airports, or similar large-impact projects.**

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### **Endangered Species Act Consultation Checklist:**

#### **Applicant:**

1. IPAC indicates RCWs may occur in the project area (see range map on Page 2).
  - a. No.....No effect. Provide IPaC information to the Savannah District with application/PCN.
  - b. Yes.....Go to #2.

2. The Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Field Office (FWS-GA) provided documentation stating project impacts to RCWs were likely to be minimal (FWS-GA signed letter or sticker, T&E survey where FWS-GA provided concurrence with negative findings, or similar documentation).
- No.....Provide completed EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip, with supporting documentation to the Savannah District with 404 application/PCN.
  - Yes.....Provide FWS-GA project review documentation and/or survey data to the Savannah District with application/PCN.

**Savannah District:**

3. Aerial photographs indicate the project area is part of a pine forest >100 acres in size.
- No.....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS-GA concurrence not needed.
  - Yes.....Go to #4.
4. The project will remove mature pine trees (>60 years old; >10 inches diameter at breast height) or will involve activities that will compact roots or soils around mature pine trees in the larger forest.
- No .....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS-GA concurrence not needed.
  - Yes.....Go to #5.
5. The mature pine forest has an open understory, with few or no midstory or canopy hardwood trees (see photo page 1).
- No ..... NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS concurrence is needed, in writing, for JPNs, but is assumed for other Savannah District actions if FWS-GA does not respond.
  - Yes.....Go to #6.
6. Data are provided in the PCN or application to assist the Savannah District and FWS-GA evaluate RCW impacts:
- No.....Request the information and, once received, continue with #6b.
  - Yes.....Share data with FWS-GA and continue consultation. If consultation results in a Savannah District determination of:
    - NLAA, and FWS-GA concurs, in writing, consultation is complete.
    - MALAA, and FWS-GA agrees, initiate formal consultation.

**Information to be Provided the Savannah District for Endangered Species Act Review**

- Project location, outlined on a USGS topographic map.
- Aerial photographs of the area, with pine habitats outlined on the photo.
- Photographs of each pine habitat, keyed to the areas outlined on the aerial photos.
- RCW survey report, if conducted.



# **DRAFT – Wood Stork -- DRAFT**

## **Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered & Threatened Species (EDGES)**

### **South Georgia Coastal Plain Counties**

#### **Species Covered by this EDGES: Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*) – Threatened**

The wood stork is a large, bald-headed wading bird that stands more than 3 feet tall, has a 5-foot wing spread, and weighs 4 to 6 pounds. It is the only stork that breeds in the United States. It eats primarily fish, foraging in a variety of open, shallow freshwater and estuarine wetlands. It favors areas with falling water levels (when fish and other prey are likely to be more concentrated in pools). Birds forage mainly by wading in shallow water with their bills partly open in the water, so they can quickly snap them shut when contact is made with prey.

The wood stork is a highly colonial species usually nesting in large rookeries and feeding in flocks. Colony size in Georgia has ranged from fewer than 12 to more than 500 nests. Nests may be located in



small trees (3-7' above ground) or large trees (60' or more above ground), but the trees must be in standing water or on islands surrounded by water to protect from predators. Nesting periods vary geographically. In north and central Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, storks lay eggs March-late May, with fledging occurring July-August. Wood storks have also nested in man-made structures. Storks occasionally use the same rookeries for years, but most colonies are shorter lived. Loss of foraging and breeding wetland habitat is the primary cause for declines.

**This EDGES covers any project that might affect freshwater or estuarine wetlands.**

### **Endangered Species Act Consultation Checklist:**

#### **Applicant:**

1. IPAC indicates wood storks may occur in the project area.
  - a. No.....No effect. Provide IPaC information to the Savannah District with application/PCN.
  - b. Yes.....Go to #2.
2. The Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Field Office (FWS-GA) provided documentation stating project impacts to listed wood storks were likely to be minimal (FWS-GA signed letter or sticker, T&E survey where FWS-GA provided concurrence with negative findings, or similar documentation).
  - a. No.....Provide completed EDGES Applicant Coordination Slip, with supporting documentation, to the Savannah District with 404 application/PCN.
  - b. Yes.....Provide FWS-GA project review documentation and/or survey data to the Savannah District with application/PCN.

#### **Savannah District**

3. The project is within 2,500 feet of an active wood stork nesting colony (see GIS layer).
  - a. No.....Go to #4.

b. Yes.....May affect. Consult with FWS-GA.

4. The project will affect suitable wood stork foraging habitat (SFH). SFH contains patches of relatively open (< 25%) aquatic vegetation, calm water, and a permanent or seasonal water depth between 2 and 15 inches. Examples of SFH include, but are not limited to, freshwater marshes, seasonally flooded roadside or agricultural ditches, narrow tidal creeks or shallow tidal pools, managed impoundments, and depressions in cypress heads and swamp sloughs.

a. No.....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS-GA concurrence not needed.

b. Yes.....Go to #5.

5. Project impacts to SFH are greater than 0.5 acre.

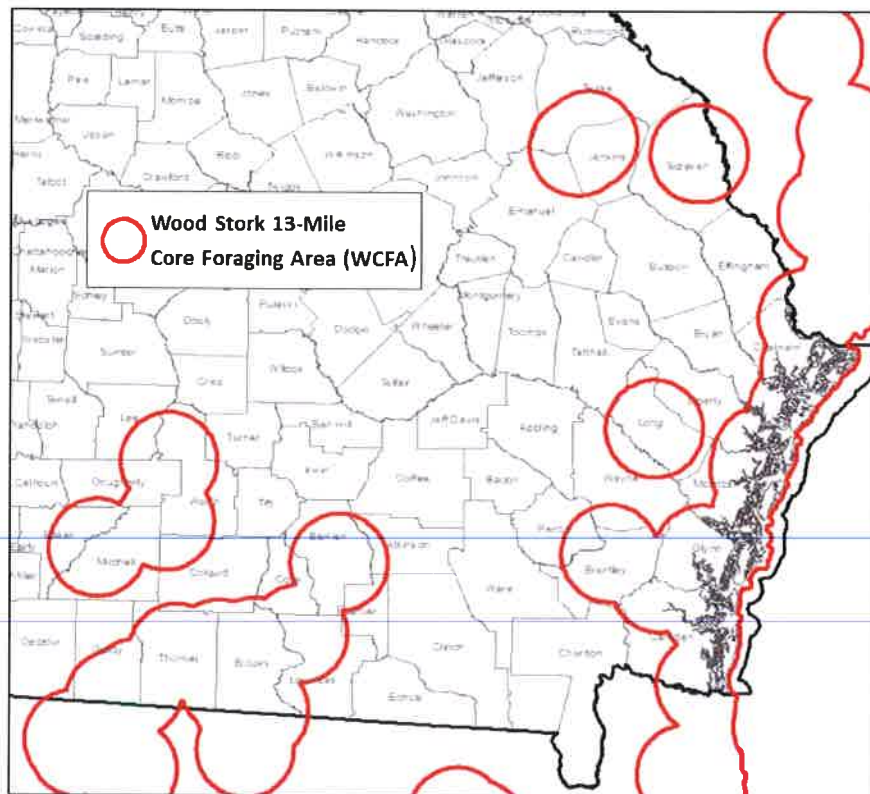
a. No.....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS-GA concurrence not needed.

b. Yes.....Go to #6.

6. The project will impact SFH within a Wood Stork Core Foraging Area (WSCFA) for a known colony (see map below) OR wood storks have been documented foraging in the wetland. WCFAs in Georgia include SFH within a 13-mile radius of a colony.

a. No.....NLAA. Consultation complete. FWS concurrence is needed, in writing, for JPNs, but is assumed for other Savannah District actions if FWS-GA does not respond.

b. Yes.....May affect. Consult with FWS-GA



August 16, 2018

February 5, 2018



## **draft -- Eastern Black Rail --**

### **Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered & Threatened Species (EDGES)**

**Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Glynn, Liberty, Greene, McIntosh, and Troup Counties**

**Species covered by this EDGES:** Eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp.*) (BLRA)



The eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp.*) (BLRA) is Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed as 'Threatened'. Threats include habitat loss, sea level rise and tidal flooding from increasing storm intensity and frequency. There is an ESA 4(d) rule for the BLRA. Prohibited activities include incidental take that causes long-term or permanent damage, fragmentation, or conversion of BLRA habitat to other habitat types that do not support the bird.

Habitat - Black rail habitat is higher elevations in Estuarine and Palustrine persistent emergent wetlands and where these wetlands meet upland edges. The BLRA species habitat needs are; the higher elevations of salt, brackish, or freshwater marsh, dense herbaceous vegetative cover that allows movement underneath the canopy, plant structure is considered more important than plant species composition, elevated refugia to escape high water events, and moist to saturated substrates interspersed with or adjacent to very shallow water.

On the Georgia Coast, habitat is the higher elevations of Estuarine Persistent Emergent Wetlands dominated by saltmarsh cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) and needlerush (*Juncus roemerianus*). Inland habitat in both non-tidal wetlands and low salinity tidal areas is Palustrine Persistent Emergent Wetlands contain a vast array of grasslike plants such as cattails (*Typha* spp.), bulrushes (*Scirpus* spp.), sedges (*Carex* spp.); and true grasses such as reed (*Phragmites australis*). Inland minimum habitat size, based on the breeding home range, is 3.2 acres (1.3 ha). Shrub-scrub and forested areas are not black rail habitat.

Should BLRA habitat be present, the USFWS recommends a presence/absence survey for the bird. Survey protocol recommended to be used in Georgia can generally be described as playback/listening of recorded bird calls during mating season, with three surveys conducted between April and July.

For more information on the eastern black rail, see the USFWS Species Status Assessment (SSA) at: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ServCat/DownloadFile/154242> .

**Applicant:**

1. IPaC indicates BLRA are potentially affected by activities in the project location.
  - a. No No effect. Provide IPaC information to the Savannah District with application/PCN.
  - b. Yes Go to #2.
2. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Georgia Field Office (FWS-GA) provided documentation stating project impacts to BLRA were likely to be minimal (FWS-GA signed letter or sticker, T&E survey where FWS-GA provided concurrence with negative findings, or similar documentation).
  - a. No Provide completed EDGES Applicant Consultation Form, with supporting documentation to the Savannah District with 404 application/PCN. Supporting documentation should include a habitat description and results of BLRA presence/absence surveys if completed. Habitat descriptions should provide sufficient detail to determine whether BLRA habitat is present. Wetland dataforms may be used, for example, to document vegetation structure and composition
  - b. Yes Provide FWS-GA project review documentation and/or survey data to the Savannah District with application/PCN.

**Savannah District:**

3. Will BLRA habitat be affected by the project (habitat present within action area and activity will result in an effect to habitat)?
  - a. No No effect. No additional coordination with FWS-GA is necessary.
  - b. Yes Go to #4.
4. The USFWS recommends presence/absence surveys following the protocol described at the end of this EDGES. Were BLRA presence/absence surveys completed?
  - a. No Based on IPaC listing and presence of habitat, Savannah District assumes BLRA is present. The project May Affect the BLRA. Go to #6.
  - b. Yes Go to #5.
5. Did the surveys find presence of the BLRA?
  - a. No May affect, not likely to adversely affect (MA NLAA). Consultation complete. No additional coordination with FWS-GA is necessary. FWS-GA concurrence is assumed. The effects of the action on the BLRA are considered to be discountable or insignificant. Discountable effects are those extremely unlikely to

occur. Insignificant effects relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale where take occurs. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur.

- b. Yes                      May affect. Go to #6.

6. Are the effects of the action on the BLRA considered to be discountable, insignificant, or wholly beneficial? Beneficial effects are contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects to the species. Insignificant effects relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale where take occurs. Discountable effects are those extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur.

- a. No                      May affect, likely to adversely affect. Please consult with FWS-GA.  
b. Yes                      May affect, not likely to adversely affect (MA NLAA). Consultation complete. FWS-GA concurrence is needed, in writing, for JPNs. Requests for concurrence should include an explanation of why the project ESA determination is MA NLAA. FWS-GA concurrence is assumed for other actions (i.e. NWP and LOP) unless a response is provided.

**Presence / absence survey protocol for the eastern black rail in Georgia.**

Surveys for the eastern black rail in Georgia should be based on the survey protocols used for the 2017 – 2018 Georgia BLRA survey. The protocol is described in: Smith, F. M., B. D. Watts, B. J. Paxton and L. S. Duval. 2018. Assessment of Black Rail Status in Georgia, Breeding Season 2017 and 2018 Summaries. Center for Conservation Biology Technical Report Series: CCBTR-18-10. College of William and Mary/Virginia Commonwealth University, Williamsburg, VA. 48 pp..

Survey protocol recommended to be used in Georgia can generally be described as playback/listening of recorded bird calls during mating season, with three surveys conducted between April and July.

**Survey Playback Sources:**

Ki-ki-kerr: Sourced from Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Macaulay Library in 2007.

Churt: Sourced from Christy Hand, South Carolina DNR

Growl: Sourced from Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Macaulay Library in 2007.

Eek-eek call: Sourced from Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Macaulay Library, Florida call.

**Survey Windows:** All coastal surveys will take place between 18 April and 21 July, with survey window #1 between 18 April and 17 May, window #2 between 18 May and 17 June, and window #3 between 18 June and 21 July. All inland surveys will take place between 1 May and 15 July, with survey window #1 between 1 May and 31 May, survey window #2 between 31

May and 21 June, and survey window #3 between 22 June and 15 July. There should be a 10-day minimum between surveys of the same point.

All coastal surveys will take place at night, between a half hour after sunset and will conclude by a half hour prior to sunrise. All inland surveys will follow standard SCDNR and USFWS protocols and start a half hour before sunrise to 3.5 hours after sunrise or 3.5 hours before sunset to .5 hours after sunset.

**Survey Points:** The number of survey points should adequately cover the BLRA habitat on the project site, keeping in mind that the survey should cover the project's area of impact. Surveyor(s) will stand at pre-selected survey point coordinates. Survey points should be marked with pin flagging (and labeled with survey point ID with a permanent marker in a nook of the flagging) during scouting, if visited, or the first survey of the season for ease of location through the rest of the season. Surveys are 10 minutes long at each point. Each point should be surveyed at least 3 times (e.g. windows #1, #2, and #3), with a 10-day minimum between surveys of the same point. Avoid sampling the same point repeatedly at the same time of day.

**Broadcast Equipment Placement:** The game caller should be placed on the ground near the center of the point (on road based surveys) or the bow of the boat during playback surveys. Surveyor should stand 5m away from caller if possible to better hear responses. When surveyors are surrounded completely by marsh, orient the caller toward magnetic north. At survey points located on the edge of open water or upland habitat, orient the broadcast caller towards the center of appropriate marsh habitat. Do not rotate the speaker during the broadcast survey. Speakers should not face the surveyors. Both speakers of the broadcast callers should be operational in open marsh and only the forward speaker operational when the surveying from the edge of open water or upland habitat. Sound pressure should be 70-80 dB at 3 feet in front of the speaker. The appropriate volume level on the FoxPro NX3 or NX4, in combination with this project's audio file, is illustrated in the figure below. When viewed straight on, the centerline of the volume knob should align with the trailing edge of the last marked volume setting. Replace batteries in game caller with freshly charged batteries at least every other day of surveys and daily, if necessary.

NX4 or NX3 volume level during surveys.



**Weather Restrictions:** Surveys should only be conducted when wind speed is <20 kmph (moderate breeze; dust and loose paper raised; small branches begin to move), and not during periods of sustained rain or heavy fog. Even winds <20 kmph affect the detection probability of marsh birds, especially BLRA, and perhaps even suppresses their calling behavior. Surveyors should postpone surveys if they believe winds (or other ambient noise) are dramatically affecting the detection probability. If wind speed increases to >20 kmph, or sustained rains/fog begin during a morning or evening survey window, surveyors should cease surveys for that window and visit unsurvey sites at another time.

**Recording Bird Detections:** Record the point number and Lat / Lon. Use the 4-letter American Ornithological Union (AOU) code: BLRA to indicate an eastern black rail detected. Each individual is recorded on a separate line and record minute by minute data.

**Distance and direction:** Record an estimate of the exact distance and the general direction (N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, or NW, or to the degree marker on a compass) to the initial detection of each individual BLRA.

**Time of detection:** Detections of each individual BLRA should be recorded minute-by-minute during the 10-minute survey period. Surveyors should distinguish and indicate the call type(s) of all BLRA detections during a given survey minute; Ki-ki-kerr, Churt, Growl, and/or Eek-eek calls. Abbreviations may be used and multiple call types may be recorded in a given minute (e.g., a black rail *ki-ki-kerr* followed by a *growl* could be recorded K, GR).

**Birds detected at a prior survey point:** If a surveyor suspects that a BLRA bird detected during a survey is an individual detected at a previous survey point, the surveyor should proceed to record the requisite detection data and record “detected at a previous point” in the comments column. When in doubt, be conservative as to whether an individual bird detected at the current

point was the same individual recorded at a previous point (i.e., make a note in the comments column).

**Birds detected outside the survey period (approaching or leaving):** Record any BLRA detected outside of the survey period by recording the distance and direction of the detection, indication the call type(s) in the “outside survey period” column, and recording your coordinates at the time of detection in the notes column. For example, if a BLRA is detected while moving between survey points, record the detection data on the data sheet for the prior (or forthcoming) survey point as described, and record coordinates of the location where you detected the BLRA.





20 April 2021

Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District  
Attn: Mr. William Rutlin  
100 West Oglethorpe Avenue  
Savannah, Georgia 31402-0889

**Subject: Nationwide Permit 7 PCN  
International Paper Port Wentworth Mill  
Outfall Diffuser Installation  
Chatham County, Georgia**

**RLC# 20-071**

Dear Mr. Rutlin:

Resource & Land Consultants (RLC), on behalf of International Paper (IP), is submitting the attached information requesting a NWP 7 concurrence for temporary impacts associated with installation of a new 48-inch effluent discharge pipe and diffuser for the IP Port Wentworth's facility wastewater treatment system effluent. The project site is located at 1 Bonnybridge Road on the Savannah River, Chatham County, Georgia (32.1634, -81.1560). The purpose of the project is to promote mixing and dispersion of the mill's treated wastewater effluent in the Savannah River.

The attached information includes the following:

- Pre-Construction Notification Form
- Background Information & General/Regional Conditions Summary
- Figures
- Permit Drawings
- US Fish & Wildlife Service IPaC Results & Edges Applicant Coordination Slip
- National Register of Historic Places
- GADNR-CRD CMPA application package

If you have any questions or require an additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at (912) 443-5896.

Sincerely,

Alton Brown, Jr.  
Principal  
Resource & Land Consultants  
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Douglas Johnson - International Paper  
Mr. Mac Scott - International Paper  
Ms. Brittany Robinson - International Paper  
Mr. Rich Lowe - Arcadis  
Ms. Malin Dartnell - Arcadis  
Mr. Bradley Smith - GADNR-EPD  
Mr. Josh Noble - GADNR-CRD

**RECEIVED**

**APR 23 2021**

**GA DNR**

# Enclosure 1

## Pre-Construction Notification Form



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
**NATIONWIDE PERMIT PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)**  
33 CFR 330. The proponent agency is CECW-CO-R.

**Form Approved -**  
**OMB No. 0710-0003**  
**Expires: 02-28-2022**

**DATA REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974**

**Authority** Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Regulatory Program of the Corps of Engineers (Corps); Final Rule 33 CFR 320-332.

**Principal Purpose** Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the nationwide permit pre-construction notification.

**Routine Uses** This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public and may be made available as part of the agency coordination process.

**Disclosure** Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can a permit be issued.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information, 0710-0003, is estimated to average 11 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE EMAIL.**

One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see *sample drawings and/or instructions*) and be submitted to the district engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

**(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)**

1. APPLICATION NO.	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE	3. DATE RECEIVED	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETE
--------------------	----------------------	------------------	------------------------------

**(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)**

<b>5. APPLICANT'S NAME</b> First - Douglas      Middle -      Last - Johnson Company - International Paper Company Title - Mill Manager E-mail Address - douglas.johnson@ipaper.com	<b>8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (<i>agent is not required</i>)</b> First - Alton      Middle -      Last - Brown Company - Resource & Land Consultants E-mail Address - abrown@rlandc.com
<b>6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS</b> Address - 1 Bonnybridge Road City - Savannah      State - GA      Zip - 31407      Country - US	<b>9. AGENT'S ADDRESS</b> Address - 41 Parl of Commerce Way , Suite 101 City - Savannah      State - GA      Zip - 31405      Country - US
<b>7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOs. with AREA CODE</b> a. Residence      b. Business      c. Fax      d. Mobile (912) 966-4301	<b>10. AGENT'S PHONE NOs. with AREA CODE</b> a. Residence      b. Business      c. Fax      d. Mobile 912-443-5896      912-547-4306

**STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION**

11. I hereby authorize, Resource & Land Consultants to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this nationwide permit pre-construction notification and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this nationwide permit pre-construction notification.

  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

2021-04-06  
DATE

**NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY**

**12. PROJECT NAME or TITLE (*see instructions*)**  
IP Port Wentworth Mill Diffuser Project



24. If the proposed activity will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands and requires pre-construction notification, explain how the compensatory mitigation requirement in paragraph (c) of general condition 23 will be satisfied, or explain why the adverse environmental effects are no more than minimal and why compensatory mitigation should not be required for the proposed activity.  
Not applicable.

25. Is any portion of the nationwide permit activity already complete? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, describe the completed work:

26. List the name(s) of any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. (see instructions)  
Coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) was conducted to assess potential impacts to federally protected species on the project site. The results of this consultation are attached to this document. Several protected species frequent coastal waters of Georgia, including the Northern Atlantic Right Whale, West Indian Manatee, five species of sea turtle, the Shortnose Sturgeon and the Atlantic Sturgeon. Based on the location of the proposed project, no adverse impacts to any individual or population of protected species is anticipated.

27. List any historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties. (see instructions)  
The National Historic Register was reviewed, and no listed properties are present within the proposed project area. This project will have no potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

28. For a proposed NWP activity that will occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, identify the Wild and Scenic River or the "study river":  
The proposed project does not occur within a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System or a river officially designated as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

29. If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federally authorized civil works project, have you submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "yes", please provide the date your request was submitted to the Corps district:

30. If the terms of the NWP(s) you want to use require additional information to be included in the PCN, please include that information in this space or provide it on an additional sheet of paper marked Block 30. (see instructions)

N/A

31. Pre-construction notification is hereby made for one or more nationwide permit(s) to authorize the work described in this notification. I certify that the information in this pre-construction notification is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

4-15-21  
DATE

SIGNATURE OF AGENT

2021-04-06

DATE

The pre-construction notification must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) and, if the statement in Block 11 has been filled out and signed, the authorized agent.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

**Instructions for Preparing a  
Department of the Army  
Nationwide Permit (NWP) Pre-Construction Notification (PCN)**

**Blocks 1 through 4.** To be completed by the Corps of Engineers.

**Block 5. Applicant's Name.** Enter the name and the e-mail address of the responsible party or parties. If the responsible party is an agency, company, corporation, or other organization, indicate the name of the organization and responsible officer and title. If more than one party is associated with the preconstruction notification, please attach a sheet of paper with the necessary information marked Block 5.

**Block 6. Address of Applicant.** Please provide the full address of the party or parties responsible for the PCN. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 6.

**Block 7. Applicant's Telephone Number(s).** Please provide the telephone number where you can usually be reached during normal business hours.

**Blocks 8 through 11.** To be completed, if you choose to have an agent.

**Block 8. Authorized Agent's Name and Title.** Indicate name of individual or agency, designated by you, to represent you in this process. An agent can be an attorney, builder, contractor, engineer, consultant, or any other person or organization. Note: An agent is not required.

**Blocks 9 and 10. Agent's Address and Telephone Number.** Please provide the complete mailing address of the agent, along with the telephone number where he / she can be reached during normal business hours.

**Block 11. Statement of Authorization.** To be completed by the applicant, if an agent is to be employed.

**Block 12. Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity Name or Title.** Please provide a name identifying the proposed NWP activity, e.g., Windward Marina, Rolling Hills Subdivision, or Smith Commercial Center.

**Block 13. Name of Waterbody.** Please provide the name (if it has a name) of any stream, lake, marsh, or other waterway to be directly impacted by the NWP activity. If it is a minor (no name) stream, identify the waterbody the minor stream enters.

**Block 14. Proposed Activity Street Address.** If the proposed NWP activity is located at a site having a street address (not a box number), please enter it in Block 14.

**Block 15. Location of Proposed Activity.** Enter the latitude and longitude of where the proposed NWP activity is located. Indicate whether the project location provided is the center of the project or whether the project location is provided as the latitude and longitude for each of the "corners" of the project area requiring evaluation. If there are multiple sites, please list the latitude and longitude of each site (center or corners) on a separate sheet of paper and mark as Block 15.

**Block 16. Other Location Descriptions.** If available, provide the Tax Parcel Identification number of the site, Section, Township, and Range of the site (if known), and / or local Municipality where the site is located.

**Block 17. Directions to the Site.** Provide directions to the site from a known location or landmark. Include highway and street numbers as well as names. Also provide distances from known locations and any other information that would assist in locating the site. You may also provide a description of the location of the proposed NWP activity, such as lot numbers, tract numbers, or you may choose to locate the proposed NWP activity site from a known point (such as the right descending bank of Smith Creek, one mile downstream from the Highway 14 bridge). If a large river or stream, include the river mile of the proposed NWP activity site if known. If there are multiple locations, please indicate directions to each location on a separate sheet of paper and mark as Block 17.

**Block 18. Identify the Specific Nationwide Permit(s) You Propose to Use.** List the number(s) of the Nationwide Permit(s) you want to use to authorize the proposed activity (e.g., NWP 29).

**Block 19. Description of the Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity.** Describe the proposed NWP activity, including the direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the activity would cause. The description of the proposed activity should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal. Identify the materials to be used in construction, as well as the methods by which the work is to be done.

Provide sketches when necessary to show that the proposed NWP activity complies with the terms of the applicable NWP(s). Sketches usually clarify the activity and result in a quicker decision. Sketches should contain sufficient detail to provide an illustrative description of the proposed NWP activity (e.g., a conceptual plan), but do not need to be detailed engineering plans.

The written descriptions and illustrations are an important part of the application. Please describe, in detail, what you wish to do. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 19.

**Block 20. Description of Proposed Mitigation Measures.** Describe any proposed mitigation measures intended to reduce the adverse environmental effects caused by the proposed NWP activity. The description of any proposed mitigation measures should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation or additional mitigation measures.

**Block 21. Purpose of Nationwide Permit Activity.** Describe the purpose and need for the proposed NWP activity. What will it be used for and why? Also include a brief description of any related activities associated with the proposed project. Provide the approximate dates you plan to begin and complete all work.

**Block 22. Quantity of Wetlands, Streams, or Other Types of Waters Directly Affected by the Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity.** For discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, provide the amount of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained by the proposed NWP activity. For structures or work in navigable waters of the United States subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, provide the amount of navigable waters filled, dredged, or occupied by one or more structures (e.g., aids to navigation, mooring buoys) by the proposed NWP activity.

For multiple NWPs, or for separate and distant crossings of waters of the United States authorized by NWPs 12 or 14, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 21 to provide the quantities of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained (or dredged or occupied by structures, if in waters subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899) for each NWP. For NWPs 12 and 14, include the amount of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained for each separate and distant crossing of waters or wetlands. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 22.

**Block 23. Identify Any Other Nationwide Permit(s), Regional General Permit(s), or Individual Permit(s) Used to Authorize Any Part of Proposed Activity or Any Related Activity.** List any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. For linear projects, list other separate and distant crossings of waters and wetlands authorized by NWPs 12 or 14 that do not require PCNs. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 23.

**Block 24. Compensatory Mitigation Statement for Losses of Greater Than 1/10-Acre of Wetlands When Pre-Construction Notification is Required.** Paragraph (c) of NWP general condition 23 requires compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one replacement ratio will be required for all wetland losses that exceed 1/10-acre and require pre-construction notification, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation is more environmentally appropriate or the adverse environmental effects of the proposed NWP activity are no more than minimal without compensatory mitigation, and provides an activity-specific waiver of this requirement. Describe the proposed compensatory mitigation for wetland losses greater than 1/10 acre, or provide an explanation of why the district engineer should not require wetland compensatory mitigation for the proposed NWP activity. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 24.

**Block 25. Is Any Portion of the Nationwide Permit Activity Already Complete?** Describe any work that has already been completed for the NWP activity.

**Block 26. List the Name(s) of Any Species Listed As Endangered or Threatened under the Endangered Species Act that Might be Affected by the Nationwide Permit Activity.** If you are not a federal agency, and if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the proposed NWP activity, or if the proposed NWP activity is located in designated critical habitat, list the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. If you are a Federal agency, and the proposed NWP activity requires a PCN, you must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

**Block 27. List Any Historic Properties that Have the Potential to be Affected by the Nationwide Permit Activity.** If you are not a Federal agency, and if any historic properties have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity, list the name(s) of those historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity. If you are a Federal agency, and the proposed NWP activity requires a PCN, you must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**Block 28. List the Wild and Scenic River or Congressionally Designated Study River if the Nationwide Permit Activity Would Occur in such a River.** If the proposed NWP activity will occur in a river in the National Wild and Scenic River System or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, provide the name of the river. For a list of Wild and Scenic Rivers and study rivers, please visit <http://www.rivers.gov/>.

**Block 29. Nationwide Permit Activities that also Require Permission from the Corps Under 33 U.S.C. 408.** If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps under 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will temporarily or permanently alter, occupy, or use a Corps federal authorized civil works project, indicate whether you have submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project.

**Block 30. Other Information Required For Nationwide Permit Pre-Construction Notifications.** The terms of some of the Nationwide Permits include additional information requirements for preconstruction notifications:

- \* NWP 3, Maintenance –information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals.
- \* NWP 31, Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities –a description of the maintenance baseline and the dredged material disposal site.
- \* NWP 33, Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering –a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre-project conditions.
- \* NWP 44, Mining Activities –if reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the final reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification.
- \* NWP 45, Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events –documentation, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration.
- \* NWP 48, Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities –(1) a map showing the boundaries of the project area, with latitude and longitude coordinates for each corner of the project area; (2) the name(s) of the species that will be cultivated during the period this NWP is in effect; (3) whether canopy predator nets will be used; (4) whether suspended cultivation techniques will be used; and (5) general water depths in the project area (a detailed survey is not required).
- \* NWP 49, Coal Remining Activities –a document describing how the overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions must be submitted to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity.
- \* NWP 50, Underground Coal Mining Activities –if reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre-construction notification.

If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 30.

**Block 31. Signature of Applicant or Agent.** The PCN must be signed by the person proposing to undertake the NWP activity, and if applicable, the authorized party (agent) that prepared the PCN. The signature of the person proposing to undertake the NWP activity shall be an affirmation that the party submitting the PCN possesses the requisite property rights to undertake the NWP activity (including compliance with special conditions, mitigation, etc.).

#### **DELINEATION OF WETLANDS, OTHER SPECIAL AQUATIC SITES, AND OTHER WATERS**

Each PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current wetland delineation manual and regional supplement published by the Corps. The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic sites and other waters on the project site, but there may be a delay if the Corps does the delineation, especially if the project site is large or contains many wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters. The 45 day PCN review period will not start until the delineation is submitted or has been completed by the Corps.

#### **DRAWINGS AND ILLUSTRATIONS**

##### **General Information.**

Three types of illustrations are needed to properly depict the work to be undertaken. These illustrations or drawings are identified as a Vicinity Map, a Plan View or a Typical Cross-Section Map. Identify each illustration with a figure or attachment number. For linear projects (e.g. roads, subsurface utility lines, etc.) gradient drawings should also be included. Please submit one original, or good quality copy, of all drawings on 8½x11 inch plain white paper (electronic media may be substituted). Use the fewest number of sheets necessary for your drawings or illustrations. Each illustration should identify the project, the applicant, and the type of illustration (vicinity map, plan view, or cross-section). While illustrations need not be professional (many small, private project illustrations are prepared by hand), they should be clear, accurate, and contain all necessary information.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

For proposed NWP activities that involve discharges into waters of the United States, water quality certification from the State, Tribe, or EPA must be obtained or waived (see NWP general condition 25). Some States, Tribes, or EPA have issued water quality certification for one or more NWPs. Please check the appropriate Corps district web site to see if water quality certification has already been issued for the NWP(s) you wish to use. For proposed NWP activities in coastal states, state Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrence must be obtained, or a presumption of concurrence must occur (see NWP general condition 26). Some States have issued Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrences for one or more NWPs. Please check the appropriate Corps district web site to see if Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrence has already been issued for the NWP(s) you wish to use.



# Enclosure 2

Figures



14 April 2021

City of Port Wentworth  
Brian Harvey  
[bharvey@cityofportwentworth.com](mailto:bharvey@cityofportwentworth.com)

**RE: GADNR CMPA Application  
International Paper Outfall Diffuser  
Chatham County, Georgia**

**RLC#: 20-071**

Dear Mr. Harvey:

International Paper Company has applied for a permit, under the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act of 1970, O.C.G.A. §12-5-280, for temporary impacts associated with installation of approximately 297 linear feet of new 48-inch effluent discharge pipe and diffuser for the IP Port Wentworth's facility wastewater treatment system effluent. The project site is located at 1 Bonnybridge Road on the Savannah River, Chatham County, Georgia (32.1634, -81.1560). The purpose of the potential new diffuser installation is to promote mixing and dispersion of the mill's treated wastewater effluent in the Savannah River. An increase in mixing and dispersion improves water quality in the Savannah River by decreasing the maximum acute effluent concentration in the Savannah River.

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 12-5-286(6), the applicant must submit a letter from the local issuing authority in which the property is located stating that the proposed activity does not conflict with any zoning laws. In addition, it is the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division policy to request that you also initial and date the attached plans so that they can insure that the final permitted facility is consistent with your initial review.

At your earliest convenience, please provide a letter stating that the applicant's proposal does not violate the zoning laws associated with the project location. Please forward your letter, along with the initialed copies of the permit drawings, to our office.

We appreciate your timely response to this request. If you should have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Alton Brown, Jr.  
Principal  
Resource & Land Consultants

Enclosures